

REMARKS

Claims 1-30 are now in the application. Claims 1, 5, 13, 15 and 21 have been amended. Claims 24-30 have been allowed. No claims have been canceled. Reconsideration of the rejected claims is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 6, and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Komai (JP 2-166678 A, hereinafter "Komai").

The examiner asserts that the Komai reference is anticipatory because Applicants have not recited specific structure in the claims to support their location argument regarding "the proximate end of the actuator arm". Applicants have deleted "proximate end" from claim 1 and structurally defined the location of the arm circuit using ordinary words.

The coil connector circuit in the Komai reference is on the coil side of the pivot hub and is not located at the end of the actuator arm for supporting the head gimbal assembly as clearly defined in claim 1. As recited in claim 1, the combination -- of an actuator arm with top and bottom surfaces with an alignment pin from one of the surfaces and having a head gimbal assembly support portion at one end of the actuator arm including a head gimbal support portion plus an arm circuit fastened on one of the surfaces receiving the alignment pin to position the circuit at the one end of the actuator arm that includes the head gimbal support portion-- is not a combination described in Komai. Claim 1 should be allowed.

Claims 2, 6 and 7 depend from claim 1 and should be allowed for the same reasons as discussed above for claim 1.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 10 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Komai. Claims 3, 8, 12, and 13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Komai in view of Forbord.

Forbord shows an arm circuit attached to the side of the actuator assembly. Forbord does describe the combination recited above in distinguishing claim 1 from Komai. Claim 13 has been amended to be consistent with the amendment of claim 1. Since claims 3, 8, 10 - 13 are

dependent from claim 1, these claims should be allowed for the same reasons as discussed above for claim 1.

Claims 15 and 17-23 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Komai in view of Forbord.

Claim 15 has been amended to delete to proximate end. Instead the arm circuit alignment pins are located "approximate to the one end of the actuator arm the operably connected to the head gimbal assembly." The word "approximate" has its ordinary dictionary meaning. Neither Komai or Forbord describe or show an arm circuit and a gimbal circuit approximate to the one end of the actuator arm operably connected to the head gimbal assembly. Further Komai or Forbord even when taken together do not suggest the claimed combination. Komai is discussed above and teaches a coil connector circuit mounted at the coil; Forbord teaches a circuit mounted on the side of the actuator arm assembly in the conventional manner. Accordingly, claim 15 should be allowed.

Claims 17-23 depend from claim 15. Claim 21 has been amended to be consistent with the amendment of claim 15. Claims 17-23 should be allowed for the same reasons as discussed above for claim 15.

Claims 4, 5, 9, 14, and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Komai in view of Forbord et al. as applied to claims 3, 8, 12 and 15, and further in view of Marazzo (USPN 5,103,359, hereinafter "Marazzo").

Claims 4, 5, 9, 14, and 16 depend from claim 1 or 15 and add the claim element where the gimbal circuit has an aperture to receive a gimbal circuit alignment pin on the top or bottom surface of the actuator arm to position the gimbal circuit at the end of the actuator arm having the head gimbal assembly support portion (claim 1) or operably connected to the head gimbal assembly (claim 15). As discussed above this structure is not shown in Komai or Forbord. Marazzo is similar to Forbord in that it has circuits mounted on the side rather than the top and bottom surfaces of the actuator assembly. Note that claim 5 was amended to be consistent with the amendment of claim 1. Claims 4, 5, 9, 14 and 16 should be allowed either because they depend from claims 1 and 15 which should be allowed, or they should be allowed in their own



right for the added combination of arm circuit and gimbal circuit mounted on top or bottom surface and positioned by alignment pins at the one end of the actuator arm.

Conclusion

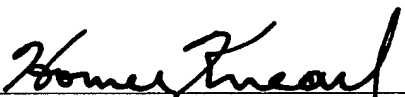
As all claims now in the application are allowed or in condition for allowance, Applicants request the application be allowed and pass to issuance as soon as possible.

It is believed that no further fees are due with this Response. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayment with respect to this patent application to deposit account number 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

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